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PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Pasternicki

For: Method and Device for Assembling a Blister Sheet and a Linerboard

Serial No.: 10/508,823

Filed: 9/23/2004

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Attorney Docket No.: MART0830US

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 23, 2005.

Howard F. Mandelbaum

Dated: February 23, 2005.

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February 23, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

AMENDED INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

On February 9, 2005, Applicant, by its attorney, filed an Information Disclosure Statement with an error which has since been discovered.

On page 2, the second paragraph should be amended thusly:

The instant Patent Application is not directed to the manufacturing of blisters. That is, it It is not concerned with the conditioning of blister sheets which have been shaped and closed on one or several product(s).

The full text of the Information Disclosure Statement, which includes the above correction, follows.

Applicant wishes to call to the attention of the Examiner the following prior art. Copies of the references are enclosed as is a completed form PTO/SB/08A.

No translation is available for French Patent N° 1 343 517. This patent is directed to a direct shaping of some kind of blister sheet on a group of products.

No translation is available for Swiss Patent N° 261 306. This patent is believed to be no more relevant than French Patent N° 1 343 517. This patent is also directed to a direct shaping of some kind of blister sheet on a group of products. The Swiss Patent merely adds the provision of a perforated linerboard which is intended to surround each blister. According to the teachings of this document, the linerboard is deposited on the blister sheet before the latter is shaped and is used as an intermediate layer between a shaping tool and the blister sheet during the shaping thereof.

The instant Patent Application is not directed to the manufacturing of blisters. It is concerned with the conditioning of blister sheets which have been shaped and closed on one or several product(s).

U.S. Patent No. 5,542,235 is directed to the same problem as the instant application insofar as it discloses the positioning of

a linerboard K on a pre-existing, i.e. already shaped, blister sheet B.

However, the teachings of the instant application strongly differ from the teachings of the '235 patent. According to the '235 patent, linerboards are deposited and positioned on the blister sheets before the blister sheets are separated from one another, i.e. on a continuous strip of blister sheets which progresses step by step (lines 55 and 56 of column 2, lines 39-41 of column 5, paragraph a of claims 1 and 9 and first paragraph of claim 13 with respect to the treatment of a continuous strip of blister sheets; lines 1620 and 49-52 of column 4, paragraphs c and f of claims 1 and 9 and fourth paragraph of claim 13 with respect to the progression step by step). The division of the strip into individual blister sheets occurs in this case after the linerboards have been positioned (lines 63-66 of column 5). The '235 patent recites the possibility of cutting the strip longitudinally before the linerboards are deposited thereon, but this does not individualize the blister sheets (paragraph spanning columns 6 and 7).

Unlike the cited art, the method and apparatus claimed in independent claims 1 and 11 and their subclaims are directed to the treatment of individual blister sheets, which progress continuously. The French and Swiss Patents include no teaching which would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the

method and apparatus of the '235 patent accordingly. The prior art patents are not concerned with a continuous treatment, and their treatment does not apply to a blister sheet after it has been shaped.

Applicant's treatment of individual blister sheets enables two linerboards to be joined to blister sheets, the contents of which are different, either alternatively (a respective linerboard for successive blister sheets having different contents) or simultaneously (several blister sheets, having different contents, together with a single linerboard), by way of an adaptation of stations 57 and 58, while the method and machine disclosed in the '235 patent is only able to associate linerboards with blister sheets which are bound together in the continuous strip, i.e. with identical blister sheets having the same content.

Applicant's continuous treatment allows for higher rates of production than a step by step treatment, and causes less wear to the machine components, and less noise.

From the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references affects the claims in the instant application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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HFM:cnt
enc.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/508,823
Filing Date	09/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Pasternicki
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	MART0830

Sheet 1 of 1

Attorney Docket Number MART0830US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		CH 281,306	02-29-1952	Wingfoot Corp.		
		FR 1,343,517	11-22-1963	P. Ferrero & C.		

Examiner Signature _____ Date Considered _____

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **¹** Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). **²** See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. **³** Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). **⁴** For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. **⁵** Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. **⁶** Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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